

relative to each other comprises positioning said cutting devices relative to said workpiece.

a) 71 52
74. The device of claim 55 wherein said positioning means comprises means for positioning said workpiece relative to said cutting devices.

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75. The device of claim 55 wherein said positioning means comprises means for positioning said cutting devices relative to said workpiece.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 and 47-75 are pending.

Claims 44-46 have been canceled.

New claims 72-75 are dependent claims. Claims 72 and 73 are dependent on claim 1 and specify particular relative positioning of the workpiece and cutting devices. Claims 74 and 75 are similar in substance but depend on apparatus claim 55.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-28, 30-40 and 47-66 were allowed. This indication of allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. For reasons which follow, it is considered that the present amendment places the application in condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 29-41, 43 and 67-70 were objected to as being improper multiple dependent claims. With respect, it is considered that the original claims were properly drawn in

alternative form. Claim 29, for example, recites a method which is dependent on the method of claim 1, 10 or 20. Counsel has reviewed MPEP §608.01(n) and believes that the claim language of several of the acceptable examples is essentially the same as applicant's original claim language. In any event, should the Examiner disagree, the Examiner is authorized to amend the claims in any appropriate manner such as by changing "of claim" to "according to any one of claims" in the first line of each of the claims objected to by the Examiner. Should any question remain, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone counsel.

Claims 44 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Raybon et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,722,474 ("Raybon"). While this rejection is respectfully traversed, claims 44 and 45 have been canceled in order to expedite allowance. Dependent claim 46 has also been canceled.

It is pointed out that, among other things, claim 44 requires that chipping heads are positioned **upstream** of the saw. Raybon does not teach or suggest such an arrangement. In any event, as noted above, claims 44 and 45 (and 46) have been canceled from the present application in order to expedite matters.

For the foregoing reasons, it is considered that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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